

Proposed Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A postal dispatch system which dispatches randomly arranged containers of sorted mail to particular dispatch carts, comprising:

a sortation conveyor having a main conveying line defined by a conveying surface ^{and} ~~operable to convey~~ ^{conveying} randomly arranged containers of sorted mail, said conveying surface comprising at least one of conveyor rollers and a conveying belt;

a plurality of spurs extending ^{generally horizontally} ~~from at least one side of said main line in the direction of~~ particular dispatch carts, said main line including a plurality of a diverter mechanism mechanisms, each of said diverter mechanisms being positioned at each an associated one of said spurs, said diverter mechanisms being positioned along said conveying surface and being operable to selectively divert containers generally horizontally from said conveying surface onto the associated one of said spurs; and

at least one transport mechanism which transports containers from each of said spurs to a particular dispatch cart juxtaposed with that spur, said at least one transport mechanism being operable to remove containers from each of said spurs, to move the removed containers to a position adjacent to an opening in the particular dispatch cart and, to insert the removed containers into the opening in the particular dispatch cart.

vertically

Claim 2 (previously amended): The system according to claim 1,

wherein said at least one transport mechanism is automatically operated and said carts are hand-operated.

Claim 3 (previously amended): The system according to claim 1,

wherein said conveying surface is a continuous loop.

Claim 4 (previously amended): The system according to claim 1,

including another diverter mechanism which diverts containers from a feed line onto said conveying surface.